

REMARKS

Claims 2 to 6 remain in this application.

The applicants respectfully urge the examiner to favorably reconsider her position and enter the amendment filed on October 4, 1999. Firstly, the proposed amendment, if entered, would clearly place the application in better form for purposes of appeal because it would obviate the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The sole ground for the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is that the claims are rendered indefinite for depending upon a canceled claim which obviously stems from an oversight of a typographical nature.

The proposed amendment was not earlier presented because the error did not come to the applicants' attention until receipt of the examiner's second action in this case. No further showing of why not earlier presented is necessary.

No new issues are raised by the proposed amendment. The amendment to claim 2 is of a gratuitous nature and is consistent with the use of the expression in claim 6, as amended. This renders the claims more definite in a manner consistent with claim 6 which has already been acceptably amended in the same fashion. The amendment to claim 5 simply completes the amendment submitted on June 28, 1999.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the applicants respectfully urge that the claims should be entered as placing the case in better condition for purposes of appeal.

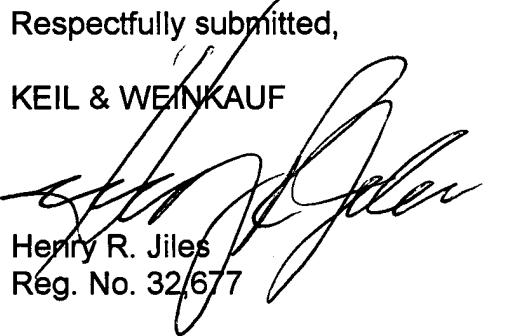
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Respectfully submitted,

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